

Amendment No. 1 to SB2277

Harper  
Signature of Sponsor

AMEND Senate Bill No. 2277

House Bill No. 2061\*

by deleting the preamble of the bill in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

WHEREAS, while TennCare and Shelby County are providing mental health care through a community based mental health and substance abuse care system, more care is needed for the number of citizens seeking such care; and

WHEREAS, the statewide TennCare Partners health plan to serve the mentally ill does not serve the best interests of recipients in West Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, estimates indicate 12,000 seriously mentally ill children, adolescents and adults living in West Tennessee need mental health care, but are not seeking services; and

WHEREAS, eighty-one percent (81%) of West Tennessee TennCare enrollees are African American; and

WHEREAS, West Tennessee is requesting additional state aid to fund special projects to transform their community based mental health and substance abuse care systems to make them more culturally competent; now, therefore,

AND FURTHER AMEND by deleting the language "any county having a charter form of government which has a population in excess of eight hundred thousand (800,000) according to the 2000 federal census or any subsequent federal census. The pilot project shall be established to enable the government of such county to:" in subsection (a) of SECTION 1 of the introduced bill and by substituting instead the language "the Western grand division of the state. The pilot project shall be established to enable the county governments in such grand division to:".